

B. Child SafetyNet Payment

Purpose: Child SafetyNet Payments are provided for children in families where any adult has received TANF/SFA for 60 months or more and is not participating satisfactorily in WorkFirst.

Effective August 1, 2002

WAC 388-310-1650 WorkFirst—Child SafetyNet Payments**(1) What is a Child SafetyNet Payment?**

A Child SafetyNet Payment (CSNP) is a TANF/SFA time limit extension to maintain housing and basic utilities and other verified needs of the children in your household. (See WAC 388-484-006.) Your family will get a Child Safety Net Payment extension instead of a regular TANF/SFA time limit extension if:

- (a) You or another adult in your household has been getting TANF/SFA for more than 60 months, and
- (b) Someone in your household is in sanction status because they are not exempt (see WAC 388-310-0300 and 0350) and have refused to do WorkFirst requirements without a good reason. We will not place you into CSNP status unless we first offered you the opportunity to talk about the proposed sanction as required by WAC 388-310-1600(2) and gave you notice that we did not think you had a good reason for failing to meet WorkFirst requirements as required by WAC 388-310-1600(4).

(2) How will I know if my family will be getting a Child SafetyNet Payment?

- (a) We will send you a letter that tells:
- (b) What caused your household to go into sanction status;
- (c) When your Child SafetyNet payments will start;
- (d) How to request a fair hearing if you disagree with the decision; and,
- (e) How to become qualified for regular TANF/SFA time limit extension benefits.

(3) Are there penalties when my household gets a Child SafetyNet Payment?

When your household gets a Child SafetyNet Payment:

- (a) We reduce your grant by forty percent or the noncompliant person's share, whichever is more; and
- (b) Send your family's CSNP to a protective payee.

The protective payee can only pay your verified rent and utility costs with your CSNP and will spend anything left over to pay your children's expenses (like clothing, diapers, toiletries, school supplies or other school-related costs).

The Child SafetyNet Payment is cash assistance and if you get more than you are eligible to get, then we can recover the amount we overpaid you under 388-410 WAC.

(4) How do I end the penalties and get out of CSNP status?

To stop the penalties and get out of CSNP status, you must:

- (a) Prove that you have been doing your WorkFirst requirements for one full month, or
- (b) Prove that you had a good reason not to do your required activities (see WAC 388-310-1600 (3)), or
- (c) Become exempt from WorkFirst requirements (see WAC 388-310-0350).

(5) What happens when I leave CSNP status?

Once you leave CSNP status:

- (a) All your penalties will end if you proved that you had a good reason not to do your WorkFirst requirements or you became exempt, or
- (b) You will go into Level Three of sanction status described in WAC 388-310-1600(6). Your grant will be sent to a protective payee and reduced

by forty percent or the non-compliant person's share, whichever is more.

(c) The Level Three sanction penalties will end after you do all your WorkFirst requirements for four weeks in a row.

(6) What if I reapply for TANF or SFA and my family was in CSNP status a when my case closed?

If your case closes while you are in CSNP status, you will go back into CSNP status when your grant is reopened.

CLARIFYING INFORMATION

(See WorkFirst Handbook for further information on Child SafetyNet Payment)

1. There are two circumstances for the Child SafetyNet Payment (CSNP) to be imposed on an AU.
 - a. A member in the AU is in sanction status and the household has passed the 60 month limit or
 - b. The household getting a regular TANF time limit extension stops participating without good cause
2. A Protective Payee is always assigned when a household enters the Child SafetyNet Payment. See the Payees – C. Protective Payees for instructions.
3. The grant is sent to the protective payee who will only pay housing and utility costs and verified needs of the children (clothes, school supplies, diapers). You will find a complete list of approved items on the Protective Payee Child SafetyNet Payment Expense Directory.
4. It takes a full calendar month to cure the CSNP, then the participant is placed in the third level of sanction and must complete the four weeks of participation before the sanction is cured.
5. There are three differences between curing a CSNP and curing a sanction:

- a. A person who cures a CSNP goes to the third level of sanction. A person who cures his or her sanction goes back to a full grant with no protective payee.
- b. The cure period for the CSNP is a full calendar month. The cure period for a third level sanction is four consecutive weeks.
- c. When a CSNP is cured, you do not reinstate TANF / SFA benefits back to the date of compliance. When a sanction is cured, you reinstate benefits to the date the client began to comply.
- d.

Start date of cure	Calendar Month ends	When CSNP removed
10-1	10-31	CSNP removed effective 11-1
10-3	11-30	CSNP removed effective 12-1
10-30	11-30	CSNP removed effective 12-1

EXAMPLE

Susan is in Child SafetyNet Payment status. On September 18, Susan begins to participate as required. On November 3, she verifies she has participated from October 1-31 (one full calendar month). The case manager takes Susan out of Child SafetyNet Payment status and puts her in sanction status effective November 1. There is no grant reimbursement for this period. On December 2, Susan verifies satisfactory participation for November 1 -29 (four consecutive weeks). The case manager removes the sanction, protective payee and authorizes a supplemental issuance back to the time of compliance (November 1).

WORKER RESPONSIBILITIES

TANF/SFA recipients who are sanctioned and are in Child SafetyNet Payment for failing or refusing to participate in WorkFirst may also be sanctioned under food stamp program rules for that failure or refusal. This applies only to non-exempt food stamp recipients. See **Food Stamp Employment and Training (Disqualification)**.

See WorkFirst Handbook for information on Child SafetyNet Payment in e-JAS